

Teresa Leger Fernández voted for a Democrat plan to give nearly \$1 billion in stimulus checks to prison inmates, including the Boston Marathon bomber terrorist.

BACKUP:

In March 2021, Teresa Leger Fernández voted for the American Rescue Plan, a Democrat plan that gave nearly one billion dollars in stimulus checks to prison inmates, including the Boston Marathon bomber terrorist:

- **In March 2021, Teresa Leger Fernández voted for H.R. 1319, the “American Rescue Plan Act.”** (H.R. 1319, [Roll Call #72](#), Passed 220-211: R 0-210, D 220-1, Leger Fernández Voted Yea, 3/10/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan passed through Congress with only Democratic support.** “The American Rescue plan made it through Congress with only Democratic support, making it stand out from the bipartisan COVID relief plans Congress passed over the last year.” (Savannah Behrman, “Takeaways from the COVID-19 stimulus bill passing Congress: Weeks of partisan fighting comes to an end with a win for Biden,” [USA Today](#), 3/10/21)
 - **President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law in March 2021.** “President Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act into law on Thursday, finalizing an early policy victory that will send much-needed aid to millions of Americans still struggling from the COVID-19 pandemic.” (Grace Segers, “Biden signs \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan into law,” [CBS News](#), 3/12/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan sent nearly \$1 billion in stimulus payments to prison inmates in 2021.** “The federal government doled out nearly a billion dollars in stimulus payments to prison inmates in 2021 under President Joe Biden’s American Rescue Plan, according to IRS records obtained by the Washington Examiner. The third-round stimulus payments to prisoners totaled \$924.3 million, which was much greater than previously reported. The checks went out despite efforts by Republican Sens. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and Bill Cassidy of Louisiana to bar stimulus funds from going to prisoners. Senate Democrats voted unanimously against the amendment in a 50-49 party-line vote in March 2021.” (Jerry Dunleavy and Andrew Kerr, “Nearly \$1 billion in stimulus funds sent to prisoners in 2021, ‘terrorists and perverts’ got \$1,400 checks,” [Washington Examiner](#), 2/11/22)
 - **Senator Tom Cotton accused Democrats of voting for payments to violent criminals instead of solving the pandemic or helping the economy.** “The American Rescue Plan was passed in March. Sen. Tom Cotton said ‘every single Democrat’ voted for payments to ‘violent criminals,’ in a statement to Fox News published on Friday He added: ‘Sending cash to murderers and rapists in prison has nothing to do with solving the pandemic or improving the economy. Now, the same people who sent hundreds of millions of dollars as gifts to these inmates want to spend trillions more in an even bigger and more partisan bill.’” (Kevin Shalvey, “Stimulus checks totaling almost \$800 million went to incarcerated people, IRS records show,” [Business Insider](#), 7/31/21)
 - **The American Rescue Plan sent stimulus checks to approximately 645,000 people who were incarcerated at the start of 2021.** “The IRS reported that the money went to approximately 645,000 people who were incarcerated at the start of the year, according to FOIA records provided to the Washington Examiner by the

NRSC.” (Jerry Dunleavy and Andrew Kerr, “Nearly \$1 billion in stimulus funds sent to prisoners in 2021, ‘terrorists and perverts’ got \$1,400 checks,” [Washington Examiner](#), 2/11/22)

- **The Boston Marathon bomber, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, received a \$1,400 stimulus check.** “A U.S. District Court judge agreed to let federal prosecutors use convicted Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev’s \$1,400 COVID-19 stimulus payment, as well as other money held in his inmate trust account, to help pay the millions of dollars he was ordered to pay his victims, The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday. In a filing Wednesday, the U.S. attorney’s office in Boston asked a judge to order the federal Bureau of Prisons to turn the money over to the Clerk of the Court ‘as payment towards his outstanding criminal monetary penalties, including unpaid special assessment and restitution.’ In addition to the stimulus payment, Tsarnaev, who’s being held at a maximum security prison in Florence, Colorado, has received money from dozens of sources during his incarceration, including the federal public defender’s office and regular payments from individuals living in Indiana, New Jersey and Maryland, according to the filing by acting U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts, Nathaniel Mendell.” (Associated Press, “Judge will allow Boston Marathon bomber’s \$1,400 stimulus check, other funds to go to victims,” [KTLA75](#), 1/6/22)
- **Tsarnaev’s actions have been described as a terrorist attack.** “On April 15, 2013, Tamerlan and his younger brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, attacked the Boston Marathon. It was one of the worst terrorist attacks on U.S. soil since 9/11.” (“Unanswered Questions About Tamerlan Tsarnaev,” [WBUR](#), 7/10/17)